

facilities are also available to handle limited International flights. A new approach road and car park area for 200 cars is likely to be completed shortly. No adjoining countries like Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh have requested for operating their flights to and from Bagdogra Airport.

Dumping Duty on Indian Steel

624. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "US may finalise dumping duty on Indian Steel" which appeared in the 'Nawstime' dated the 22nd May, 2002;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to protect the export market of the Indian steel which may be adversely affected by the imposition of countervailing duties by USA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) to (c) Government of India is aware of the Anti-dumping investigation initiated by the US authorities in October 2001 against imports of "certain cold-rolled carbon steel flat products" from various countries including India. On July 10th 2002 the US Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration (USDOC/ITA) issued its final affirmative determination, making no change to the dumping margins it had announced in May, 2002, i.e. the margins were maintained at 153.65% in respect imports of the subject product of India. Under WTO provisions the Anti-dumping investigation/measure is considered only when the exports are made at less than the normal value of the products and causes or threatens to cause material injury to an established domestic industry of the importing country. The response to the investigation has to be primarily by the exporters. The Government of the exporting country has little role to play. However, Government of India has been extending all possible help deemed necessary to the Indian exporters in all such cases.